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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Russell A. Firestone et al.

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Application No. : 10/821,883

Group Art Unit: 3626

Filed : April 12, 2004

Examiner: Not yet assigned

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b)(3)

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

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In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is directed to the 6 cited references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08a. No representation is made or intended that more relevant information does not exist or that the order of presentation of the information in any way reflects its relative pertinence. Copies of the references are being submitted herewith, unless they are U.S. Patents, U.S. published applications or co-pending U.S. applications.

Applicant respectfully requests that each of the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and that the cited references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

It is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Thus, no certification or fee would be required.

Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. 50-2228 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6/30/04

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Date
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